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July 13, 2001

Honorable Philip N. Asprodites  
Commissioner of Conservation  
State of Louisiana  
Post Office Box 94275  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9275

RE: HEARING APPLICATION  
Substitute Unit Well  
SMK B RA SUC  
Haynesville Field  
Claiborne Parish, Louisiana  
Our File No. 340029.0354

Dear Sir:

On behalf of MARATHON OIL COMPANY, application is hereby made for a public hearing to receive evidence concerning the issuance of an order pertaining to the following matters relating to the Smackover B Zone, in the Haynesville Field, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana:

1. To permit the applicant to designate, utilize and produce the Marathon Oil Company - Beene 22 No. 1 Well, as the substitute unit well for SMK B RA SUC, at the location shown on the attached plat, in exception to the well spacing provisions of Office of Conservation Order No. 35-H, effective November 3, 1948.
2. To explicitly find that the proposed substitute unit well is necessary to drain a portion of the Smackover B Zone underlying Smk B RA SUC, which cannot be efficiently and economically drained by any existing well in such unit.
3. To consider such other matters as may be pertinent.

Commissioner of Conservation  
July 13, 2001  
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The Smackover B Zone, in the Haynesville Field, Claiborne Parish, Louisiana is more fully defined in the Office of Conservation Order No. 35-H, effective November 3, 1948.

The Rules of Procedure of the Commissioner of Conservation pertaining to the Pre-Application Notice requirements are not applicable to the hearing requested herein, which requires legal notice of only ten (10) days.

Pertinent data concerning the intended application will be made available for inspection at the offices of Marathon Oil Company, 909 E. SE Loop 323, Suite 500, Tyler, Texas 75701. Any person wishing to inspect such data should call Mr. Rich Henderson (903) 509-5544 during normal business hours or write Mr. Henderson at the above address, in order to arrange a date and time for such inspection. A copy of any such pertinent data can be obtained at the expense of the requesting party.

A list of the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties (as defined in the Rules of Procedure) is attached hereto, and a copy of this notice, with the annexed plat, is being sent to each of such persons. A reasonable effort has been made to determine that the enclosed list includes all of the persons to whom this notice must be sent under the Rules of Procedure.

A check in the amount of \$700.00 made payable to the Commissioner of Conservation is enclosed herewith as the statutory fee for holding the requested hearing.

This application is being filed in duplicate, and a copy hereof is being sent to Mr. James C. Broussard, Shreveport District Manager of the Office of Conservation and to each Interested Owner, Represented Party and Interested Party whose name is shown on the attached list.

Very truly yours,

BLANCHARD, WALKER, O'QUIN & ROBERTS

By: 

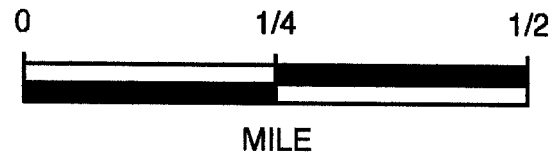
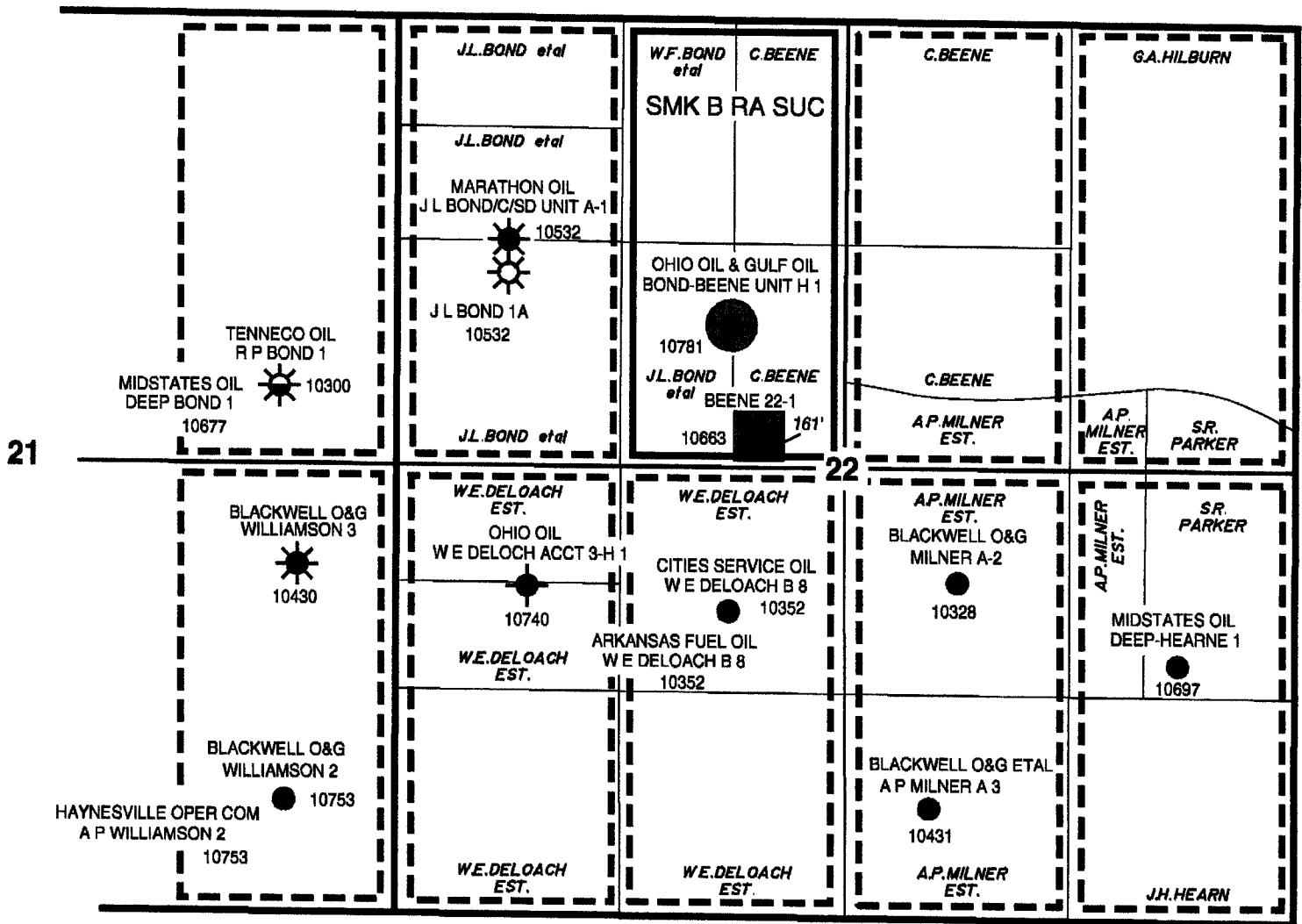
Wm. Timothy Allen III

Attorneys for Marathon Oil Company

WTAM:bp  
Enclosures

- cc: Mr. James C. Broussard, Shreveport  
District Manager, Office of Conservation  
(w/enclosures)
- cc: Interested Owners, Represented Parties  
and Interested Parties (w/copy of plat only)

# T23N R8W



PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE  
UNIT WELL



EXISTING UNIT WELL



PROPOSED SMK B RA SUC



EXISTING SMK B UNITS  
(ORDER 35-H)

MARATHON OIL COMPANY  
SOUTHERN BUSINESS UNIT

## HAYNESVILLE FIELD

CLAIBORNE PH., LOUISIANA